to improve the information system for States/UTs, computerization project is being implemented during the 9th & 10th Plan Budget with an amount of Rs. 5 crores.

(ii) In the 10th Plan, a capacity building project assisted by World Bank is also being finalized for strengthening of State and Central Drugs sector with sanction outlay of Rs. 94 crores. The main strategy is to focus on development of capacity in drugs sector through development of infrastructure including of upgrading of laboratories, training of regulatory staff and industry personnel. This project is in the final stage of negotiaton with the Bank. EFC clearance has already been obtained.

(iii) The requirments of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) have been made stricter through amendment to Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, to ensure hproductin of better quality drugs across the country.

(iv) A programme to undertaken technical audit of all drugs testing labs, in the country has also been undertaken.

Health Grants Commission

536. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal to Government to set up a Health Grants Commission to look after the medical education in the country on the lines of University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Central Government has a proposal to establish Medical Grants Commission on the lines of University Grants Commission.

Implementation of Reproductive and Child Health Programme

537. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have succeeded in implementing Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme as per the National Population Policy, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the RCH Programme has successfully covered the deprived population groups of urban slums and tribal communities as well as adolescents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) National Population Policy was adopted in the year 2000. The goals relating to reproductive and child health set in the National Population Policy are being realized through the on-going Reproductive and Child Health Programme. Some of the major steps for realization of the above goals taken since the adoption of National Population Policy include:

1. Launching of the Dai Training Programme in 156 districts of the country.
2. Organisation of bi-monthly RCH Camps in understaffed Primary Health Centres or remote areas for improving delivery of specified services in 178 districts.
3. For strengthening of maternal and child health services, additional support for improving mobility supervision, social mobiliation, logistics and microplanning is being provided in 151 districts of the country.
4. For increasing availability of anesthetists for handling birth emergencies, a short term training programme of MBBS doctors is being launched.
5. A pilot programme for introduction of simpler Mannual Vaccum Aspiration Technique for safe abortion is underway in 8 states.
6. For improving neonatal care, health personnels are being trained for neonatal servicves along with supply of equipment.
7. The cold chain logistics for the immunization programme has been strengthened for maintaining potency of vacancies.
8. The puelse polio eradication activities have been intensively implemented.

(c) and (d) The status in respect of coverage of different deprived groups is as below:

(i) The RCH activities are being currently provided in the urban areas through 1083 urban family welfare centres, 871 health

posts and 1562 post partum centres. These services were strengthened through a World Bank funded IPP-VIII Project in four cities of Kolkata, Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore besides 94 other towns. New urban health projects have been taken up in the cities Lucknow, Aurangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Bhopal, Kolkata and Guwahati. The urban health is one of thrust areas of Reproductive and Child Health Programme in the Tenth Plan.

(ii) The Reprodcutive and Child Health (RCH) Programme also extends to tribal areas. A tribal health strategy for improving the coverage and quality of RCH services has been drawn up, which will be integrated in the (RCH) Programme in its next phase, preprations for which are underway.

(iii) 12 Adoscent Health Projects are underway. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry to draw up the strategy which will be implemented in the next phase of Reproductive and Child Health Programme.

Medical Facilities in Assam

538. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the deails of schemes and programmes formulated and implemented for providing medical facilities to the people of Assam;

(b) the details of funds allocated and the amount actually released by Government to the State during the last three years;

(c) the details of funds actually spent on the aforesaid schemes in the State during the said period; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government for the expansion of health facilities among the masses of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored National health Programmes for control of major diseases like Malaria, Leprosy, TB, Blindness and AIDS in different States/UTs in the country including Assam. Financial assistance provided to Assam during the last three years is as given below: